

Message Text

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12

ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/ INS: DTSCHNEIDER: AM

4/3/73 X22141

APPROVED BY NEA: RPD AVIES

D: NVELIOTES (SUBS)

S/ S - MR. MILLER

NEA/ EX: LRHUNT

----- 101736

R 040020 Z APR 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 061758

STADISEXDIS////////////////////////////////////

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OCON, IR, CE

SUBJECT: DEPSEC VISIT

REF: COLOMBO 830

FOR AMBASSADOR

1. SRI LANKA AMBASSADOR KANAKARATNE TELEPHONED SISCO
APRIL 3 TO INQUIRE ABOUT PLANS FOR RUSH/ SISCO VISIT.
SISCO CONVEYED INFO TRANSMITTED REFTEL THAT PM WOULD
BE UNABLE MEET PARTY AND CONSEQUENTLY MUCH TO OUR REGRET,
WE HAD DECIDED WE WOULD HAVE TO ABANDON VISIT. KANAKARATNE
EXPRESSED GREAT DISTRESS THAT OPPORTUNITY TO RECEIVE
HIGH RANKING US OFFICIALS WAS BEING MISSED AND INQUIRED
WHETHER HE MIGHT ON HIS OWN APPEAL TO GSL TO REVERSE DE-
CISION.

2. AFTER CONSIDERATION OF MATTER, SCHNEIDER LATER CALLED
BACK KANAKARATNE ON BEHALF OF SISCO AND AGAIN REVIEWED
REPLY WHICH MENDIS HAD CONVEYED TO AMBASSADOR. SCHNEIDER
SAID USG COMPLETELY UNDERSTOOD REASONS PM COULD NOT
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RECEIVE PARTY. SAID FURTHER THAT WE CONSIDERED WE HAD GSL RESPONSE AND DID NOT WISH TO CREATE ANY IMPRESSION WE WERE SEEKING RECONSIDERATION.

3. KANAKARATNE INDICATED THAT HE NEVERTHELESS WISHED TO PUT IN HIS OWN APPEAL TO COLOMBO. HE SAID HE WOULD CAREFULLY INDICATE THAT HE WAS DOING THIS ON HIS OWN AND IN NO WAY ON BEHALF OF USG. HE ASKED WHAT FLEXIBILITY THERE WAS IN RUSH/ SISCO SCHEDULE. SCHNEIDER REPLIED THAT IT MIGHT STILL BE POSSIBLE TO REINSTATE APRIL 17-18 VISIT WUT THIS WOULD BECOME MORE

4. YOU SHOULD, OF COURSE, NOT RPT NOT TAKE ANY ACTION AS RESULT KANAKARATNE' S QUERY. RUSH

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** STADIS, EXDIS

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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